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The subject matter of allowable claim 2 has been incorporated into amended claim 1, with claims 3-14 being dependent thereon. Claims 1 and 3-14 are accordingly believed to be in condition for allowance,

New claim 15 presents the subject matter of allowable claim 4, i.e. a combination of claims 1 and 4. Claims 16-27 are the same as original claims 23.3 and 5-14, dependent on claim 15. Claims 15-27 are accordingly believed to be in condition for allowance.

Please charge the fee for six claims over 20 (5 108) to Deposit Account No. 03-2468.

No issue remaining at bar, allowance of claims 1 and 3-27 is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

SATORU MAJIMA

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent by fax to the US PTO, Fax No.: 703-872-9318 on August 9, 2004

Ingrid Mittendorf